

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Sveum et al.) I hereby certify that this paper is being
U.S. Serial No. : 10/743,577) filed electronically with the U.S. Patent
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Title : BRACE SYSTEM AND)
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Examiner : Joshua I. Rudawitz)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 24, 2009

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 24, 2009, please consider the following claim amendments and remarks.

The Status of the Claims is reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.